

Psalm 68:1–35 — The March of God and the Future Kingdom

Psalm 68 is a majestic and prophetic psalm of David, celebrating God's power, His care for His people, His triumph over His enemies, and the future glory of His reign over all the earth.

"Let God arise, Let His enemies be scattered; Let those also who hate Him flee before Him. As smoke is driven away, So drive them away; As wax melts before the fire, So let the wicked perish at the presence of God." (Psalm 68:1–2, NKJV)

David begins with a call for God to act decisively against His enemies. Just as smoke is dispersed by the wind and wax melts before fire, so too will the wicked dissolve under the weight of God's presence. Their defeat is not through human power but by the sheer reality of who God is.

Joy for the Righteous

"But let the righteous be glad; Let them rejoice before God; Yes, let them rejoice exceedingly." (Psalm 68:3, NKJV)

While God's enemies perish, the righteous are called to rejoice. Notice the emphasis: *rejoice exceedingly*. True joy is found not in our circumstances but in the assurance of God's reign.

"Sing to God, sing praises to His name; Extol Him who rides on the clouds, By His name YAH, And rejoice before Him." (Psalm 68:4, NKJV)

Here David uses the divine name "Yah" — a shortened form of *Yahweh* — the self-existent One, "I AM." This is the same root as *Yeshua* (Jesus), meaning "Yahweh is salvation."

God's Care for the Needy

"A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows, Is God in His holy habitation. God sets the solitary in families; He brings out those who are bound into prosperity; But the rebellious dwell in a dry land." (Psalm 68:5–6, NKJV)

God's heart is for the vulnerable — the fatherless and the widows. He lifts up the solitary and brings the captives into freedom. Only those who resist Him remain in barren places.

God's March Through History

"O God, when You went out before Your people, When You marched through the wilderness, Selah, The earth shook; The heavens also dropped rain at the presence of God; Sinai itself was moved at the presence of God, the God of Israel." (Psalm 68:7–8, NKJV)

David reflects on God's powerful presence during Israel's journey through the wilderness. Even creation trembles at His approach. God is not distant; He is active and near.

"You, O God, sent a plentiful rain, Whereby You confirmed Your inheritance, When it was weary." (Psalm 68:9, NKJV)

God's provision is lavish — *plentiful rain* — reviving His weary people. In the wilderness or in seasons of drought, He brings refreshing.

A Prophetic Glimpse of Christ

"You have ascended on high, You have led captivity captive; You have received gifts among men, Even from the rebellious, That the LORD God might dwell there." (Psalm 68:18, NKJV)

Paul quotes this verse in Ephesians 4:8, applying it to Jesus. Christ descended to the lower parts of the earth — not to suffer more, but to proclaim His victory. He liberated those held captive in death (Luke 16:19–31; 1 Peter 3:19), leading them into the heavenly realm. Now ascended, He bestows spiritual gifts on His people, equipping the church for ministry (Ephesians 4:11–13).

Before Jesus' atoning death and resurrection, Old Testament saints could not enter heaven because sin had not yet been fully atoned. Now, through Christ, full access is granted. He is the fulfillment of the ancient promises.

Daily Blessings and Strength

"Blessed be the Lord, Who daily loads us with benefits, The God of our salvation! Selah." (Psalm 68:19, NKJV)

What a beautiful truth: God *daily* loads us with blessings. His mercies are not seasonal or occasional but daily (Lamentations 3:22–23). Even in our trials, God is faithful to provide what we need.

"Our God is the God of salvation; And to GOD the Lord belong escapes from death." (Psalm 68:20, NKJV)

Victory over death belongs to the Lord. Our times are in His hands (Psalm 31:15), and He alone determines our days.

Worship and the Kingdom to Come

"They have seen Your procession, O God, The procession of my God, my King, into the sanctuary." (Psalm 68:24, NKJV)

David envisions the worship procession into God's sanctuary: singers, musicians, and worshippers joyfully leading the way, much like the worship in the future Kingdom Age.

"Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth; Oh, sing praises to the Lord, Selah." (Psalm 68:32, NKJV)

David looks ahead to a day when all nations will praise the Lord. As Paul wrote:

"At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth." (Philippians 2:10, NKJV)

The Power and Presence of God

"To Him who rides on the heaven of heavens, which were of old! Indeed, He sends out His voice, a mighty voice." (Psalm 68:33, NKJV)

God's power is unmatched, His voice mighty. As He spoke creation into existence, He will speak to establish His righteous rule on earth.

"Ascribe strength to God; His excellence is over Israel, And His strength is in the clouds. O God, You are more awesome than Your holy places. The God of Israel is He who gives strength and power to His people. Blessed be God!" (Psalm 68:34–35, NKJV)

Personal Application

Psalm 68 reminds us that the God we worship is mighty to save and faithful to defend. He daily loads us with blessings and prepares us for His coming Kingdom. As believers, we live in a time of preparation — experiencing His provision now, but longing for the day when the earth will be filled with His glory.

- Are you trusting in God's daily provision, even when life feels like a wilderness?
- Are you rejoicing exceedingly, knowing that His promises will be fulfilled?
- Are you living in light of His future reign, offering your life now in worship and obedience?

May we, like David, declare:

"Blessed be God, who daily loads us with benefits!" (Psalm 68:19)